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Attorney Docket No. 02515D/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Date of Deposit: December 8, 2004

Applicant(s): K. YAMAGUCHI et al.

I hereby certify the United States Postal Service
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37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is
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Washington, D.C. 20231

Serial No. : 10/693,236

Filed : October 24, 2003

For : METHOD FOR DRYING WASHED
OBJECTS

N. Sahadeo
Nalini P. Sahadeo

Art Unit : 3749

Examiner : O MALLEY, KATHRYN S.

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the
necessary petition for extension of time is not filed
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for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not
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connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(d) WITH STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) AND FEE (\$1.17(p))**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of a Japanese Office Action dated
October 29, 2004 (and English translation thereof)
issued in the counterpart Japanese application;
- (2) Copies of non-U.S. patent cited publications;
- (3) Form PTO/SB/08A; and
- (4) **FEE:** A form 2038 is enclosed to cover the USPTO fee of
\$180.00 as set forth under 37 CFR 1.17(p) for filing an
IDS at this stage of prosecution (after allowance and
before payment of the Issue Fee).

Authorization is given to charge any additional fees which
may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Account No.
06-1378.

An English translation of said Japanese Office Action is provided, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

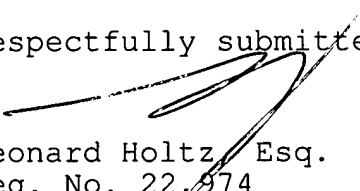
English language Abstracts are provided for items A-D cited on the attached PTO/SB/08A.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of October 29, 2004. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


Leonard Holtz, Esq.
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Encls.

Dated: December 8, 2004

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	10/693,236
		Filing Date	October 24, 2003
		First Named Inventor	K. YAMAGUCHI et al.
		Group Art Unit	3749
		Examiner Name	O MALLEY, KATHRYN S.
Sheet 1 of		Attorney Docket Number	02515D/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits ¹	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits ¹	Cite No ¹	Offc ¹	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
	A	JP	10-189527	A	FUJITSU LTD	07-21-1998		X*
	B	JP	11-304361	A	DAINIPPON SCREEN MFG CO LTD	11-05-1999		X*
	C	JP	2000-223456	A	TOKYO ELECTRON LTD	08-11-2000		X*
	D	JP	10-041262	A	FUJITSU LTD	02-13-1988		X*

*English Language Abstract only

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Unique citation designation number. See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: December 8, 2004